

REMARKS

Claims 1 through 33 are pending in the application. Claims 12 through 16 and 20 through 33 have been withdrawn from consideration as being drawn to a non-elected species.

Claims 1, 5, 7-11, and 17-19 stand rejected. Claims 2-4 and 6 have been objected to for being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but otherwise allowable.

In the “Response to Arguments” section of the Office Action, the Examiner indicates that the applicant’s previous arguments with respect to the rejection of claims 1, 5, 7, and 17-19 are moot “in view of the new grounds of rejection.” However, on page 2 of the Office Action, the previous § 102(b) rejection based on Gerenraich ‘103 and § 103(a) rejections based on the combination of Gerenraich ‘103 and Lewis ‘145 are repeated. The “new grounds” for the rejection are actually contained on page 3 wherein claims 1, 5, 7, and 17-19 stand rejected as anticipated under § 102(b) in view of Boll ‘920. Claims 8-11 stand rejected under § 103(a) as unpatentable over the combination of Boll ‘920 and Lewis ‘145. Applicant is assuming that the § 102 and § 103 rejections set forth on page 2 of the Office Action based on Gerenraich ‘103 were inadvertently included in the Office Action and that the proper and only § 102 and § 103 rejections are those based on Boll ‘920 as the primary reference, and as set forth on page 3 of the Office Action. If this understanding is incorrect, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned so that the present Amendment can be properly supplemented.

Claim 1 is amended herein to further emphasize the relationship between the housing defining the internal liquid reservoir, the dispensing pump mechanism, and the

mounting assembly. Referring to amended claim 1, the electronic viscous liquid dispenser includes a housing that defines the internal liquid reservoir. The housing includes a front surface with an opening therethrough adjacent to the bottom surface of the reservoir. A dispensing pump mechanism is carried by the housing and is disposed in liquid communication with the reservoir. A mounting assembly is configured for mounting on a supporting wall structure, with the housing (that defines the internal liquid reservoir) and dispensing pump mechanism that is carried by the housing being completely removable from and replaceable relative to the mounting assembly. In other words, the mounting assembly that is attached or affixed to the supporting wall structure does not include the dispensing pump mechanism. The dispensing pump mechanism is a component of the removable and replaceable housing that defines the internal liquid reservoir. On the other hand, the electronic actuating mechanism is carried by the mounting assembly and comprises a motor driven actuator that engages with the pump mechanism upon insertion of the housing into the mounting assembly. This unique combination of elements is not present in the Boll '920 reference.

Referring to Boll '920, the dispenser includes a container 12, a housing 14 positioned behind the container 12, and a shroud 16 positioned above the container and the housing. In Boll '920, the term "housing" is used differently than in the present application. The housing 14 is the structure that receives the container 12. The container 12, on the other hand, defines the liquid reservoir. As particularly seen in Figs. 3A and 3B, the pump mechanism (including the dip tube 42, diaphragm 44, exhaust tube 46, and pump housing 48) are not components of the container 12, but are permanent components of the housing 14 and shroud 16. The pump mechanism is

driven by the electronically operated pump actuator 80, with the components being in permanent engaged relationship. The pump mechanism is not a component of the removable container that engages with an electronic actuating mechanism upon insertion of the container 12 into the dispenser. As explained at column 3, lines 43 through 47, the container 12 includes a neck 34 defining an opening 36 that is sealed with a container seal 38. Upon insertion of the container into the dispenser, the seal 38 is broken and the container 12 mates with the pump assembly that is separately housed in the shroud 16 and housing 14. This structural configuration is fundamentally different from that set forth in claim 1. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that independent claim 1 is not anticipated by Boll '920. Claims 2 through 19 depend directly or indirectly from claim 1 and are allowable for at least the reasons claim 1 is allowable.

The Examiner is also respectfully requested to independently reconsider the rejections of the dependent claims based on Boll '920 alone or in combination with Lewis '145.

With the present Amendment, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1 through 19 are allowable.

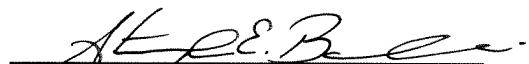
Upon indication of allowance of claims 1 through 19, claims 20 through 23 will be cancelled without prejudice thereto and may be pursued in a Divisional Application.

The Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned at his convenience should he have any questions regarding this matter or require any additional information.

Respectfully submitted,

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